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EXAMINER

RAMACHANDRAN, UMAMAHESWARI

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1617

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	02/08/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-7 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kimura et al. (U.S. 5,676,938) in view of Shinji et al. (JP 02265926) and further in view of Kanemaru et al. (EP 1116753).

Kimura et al. teaches a cosmetic composition comprising a silicone resin, a polysilsequioxane of $R^1Si(O)_{1.5}$ units wherein R^1 represents a substituted or unsubstituted hydrocarbon group that includes an alkyl group (methyl, ethyl, propyl and butyl) for foundation, pressed powder etc (col.2, lines 47-49, col. 5, lines 42-67). The reference further teaches that the composition includes pigments and other cosmetically acceptable ingredients (col.6, lines 3-67).

Kimura et al. does not teach the silsequioxane polymers with hydroxyl and alkoxy groups.

Shinji et al. teaches a siloxane derivative with hydrophilic alkyl skeleton containing hydroxyl groups and ether oxygen in same molecule in a cosmetic composition (see Abstract).

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It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to make a cosmetic powder coated with silsesquioxane polymers and to have hydroxyl and alkoxy groups in the silsesquioxane polymer of the cosmetic powder composition. The motivation to do is taught by Kimura et al. and Shinji et al. Kimura et al. teaches that the cosmetic composition with the organopolysiloxanes which after being applied has sufficient water repellency, lasts long and gives a good feeling in use. Shinji et al. teaches that by having siloxane skeleton and hydrophilic alkyl skeleton containing hydroxyl groups and ether oxygen in same molecule, siloxane derivative has good texture originated from siloxane part and good skin-affinity originated from alkyl part.

Kimura et al. and Shinji et al. do not teach the weight of cosmetic powder phase and that of the silsesquioxane polymers.

Kanamaru et al. teaches a cosmetic powder (0.3-50% by weight) coated with a silicone (0.1-20% by weight) compound and polymerizing the silicone on the surface thereof by heat treatment (Abstract, p2, lines 5-11).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to make a cosmetic powder coated with silsesquioxane polymers with such weight composition as in claims 2 and 3 of the instant application because Kanamaru et al. teaches that the silicone treated powder with a composition of 0.3-50% by weight powder coated with a silicone, 0.1-20% by weight is water repellent and can be formulated to various cosmetics and has superior stability.

Kimura et al., Shinji et al. and Kanamaru et al. do not teach the molar ratio of the polymer with the hydrocarbon groups and the molar ratio of the copolymer.

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The examiner respectfully points out the following from MPEP 2144.05: "[W]here the general conditions of a claim are disclosed in the prior art, it is not inventive to discover the optimum or workable ranges by routine experimentation." *In re Aller*, 220 F.2d 454, 456, 105 USPQ 233, 235 (CCPA 1955); see also *Peterson*, 315 F.3d at 1330, 65 USPQ2d at 1382 ("The normal desire of scientists or artisans to improve upon what is already generally known provides the motivation to determine where in a disclosed set of percentage ranges is the optimum combination of percentages."); *In re Hoeschele*, 406 F.2d 1403, 160 USPQ 809 (CCPA 1969); *Merck & Co. Inc. v. Biocraft Laboratories Inc.*, 874 F.2d 804, 10 USPQ2d 1843 (Fed. Cir.), cert. denied, 493 U.S. 975 (1989); *In re Kulling*, 897 F.2d 1147, 14 USPQ2d 1056 (Fed.Cir. 1990); and *In re Geisler*, 116 F.3d 1465, 43 USPQ2d 1362 (Fed. Cir. 1997).

Conclusion


No claims are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Umamaheswari Ramachandran whose telephone number is 571-272-9926. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sreeni Padmanabhan can be reached on 571-272-0629. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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